

**MINUTES OF THE  
CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT PANEL**  
Thursday, June 19, 2003 – 10:00 a.m. – Room 305 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. Dan R. Eastman, Senate Chair  
Rep. Mike Thompson, House Chair  
Sen. Gene Davis  
Rep. Steven R. Mascaro

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Mark D. Andrews, Research Analyst  
Ms. Stacey M. Snyder, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Wendy L. Bangerter, Legislative Secretary

**Members Absent:**

Rep. David Litvak

**Note:** A list of others present and a copy of materials can be found at <http://www.image.le.state.ut.us/imaging/history.asp> or by contacting the committee secretary, Wendy Bangerter, at 538-1032.

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:17 a.m. He excused Rep. Litvak who was not able to attend.

**MOTION:** Rep. Mascaro moved to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2003 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Eastman absent for the vote.

**2. Report from the Judiciary**

Judge Sharon P. McCully reviewed a history of the child welfare system and shared her perspectives about the system as a member of the Third District Juvenile Court, Lead Judge of the Salt Lake City Model Court, member of the Utah Court Improvement Project, and Vice-President of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She reviewed changes and improvements being made to model courts to achieve more effectiveness. She stated their goal is to have safe, permanent homes for all children. She emphasized the need for frequent and consistent judicial review hearings of each child's case. She emphasized efforts in Utah to implement "best practices" for child abuse and neglect cases. She reviewed challenges faced by the child welfare system, especially in the rural districts. She encouraged the Legislature to continue to fund and support the growing needs of every entity of the child welfare system. An outline of Judge McCully's presentation is on file in the office of Legislative Research and General Counsel and is available at: <http://www.le.state.ut.us/asp/interim/Commit.asp?Year=2003&Com=SPECWL>

**3. Impact of 2003 H.B. 308, "Health and Human Services Boards and Commission Amendment"**

Not discussed.

**4. Other Items / Adjourn**

The Panel scheduled the next meeting for Thursday, July 17, 2003.

**MOTION:** Sen. Davis moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Mascaro absent for the vote.

Chair Thompson adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.